

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 KIGALI 01377 01 OF 03 300631Z
ACTION PM-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AF-01	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	DTC-01	RPE-01	PMB-00	/058W			

-----35E96A 300632Z /38

R 300623Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6081
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
SECDEF WASHDC
JOINTSTAFF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//J4-SA/J4-SAA//
DIA WASHDC//CH-4//
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 01377

DEPT FOR PM/ISP, AF/RA, AF/C, AND IO/PHO

DOD FOR OSD/HRA

YAOUNDE FOR DAO

E.O. 12356:N/A
TAGS: MASS, MARR, PINS, PINR, PGOV, RW
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KIGALI 01377 01 OF 03 300631Z
SUBJECT: RWANDAN REQUEST FOR DEMINING ASSISTANCE

REF: A) STATE 62321 AND B) KIGALI 421

1. SUMMARY. DASD IRVIN VISIT FOCUSES ATTENTION ON
RWANDA'S LAND MINE PROBLEM. GOR ASKS FOR A U.S. MINE
ASSESSMENT TEAM TO COME TO ASSIST UNAMIR WITH ITS
DEMINING PROGRAM. START UP OF DEMINING ACTIVITIES
AWAITS THE SETTING UP OF TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. GOR
READY TO SIGN PROTOCOL BANNING USE OF LAND MINES. END
SUMMARY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

RWANDA REQUESTS VISIT OF U.S. MINE ASSESSMENT TEAM

2. FOLLOWING THE RECENT VISIT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (DASD) PATRICIA IRVIN, THE GOR OFFICIALLY REQUESTED U.S. ASSISTANCE IN EVALUATING ITS LAND MINE PROBLEM. THE GOR ASKED FOR A U.S. MINE ASSESSMENT TEAM TO VISIT RWANDA TO WORK IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.N. PEACEKEEPING MISSION (UNAMIR) TO "TRAIN THE TRAINERS" TO DETECT AND REMOVE MINES AND TO CONDUCT MINE AWARENESS PROGRAMS.

3. AS NOTED IN REF A, TIMING FOR THE VISIT OF THE U.S. MINE ASSESSMENT TEAM WILL BE CONTINGENT ON WHEN DEMINING OPERATIONS ACTUALLY BEGIN. WE EXPECT THIS TO START SOON AFTER THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT IS SWORN IN. THE UN, THE RPF, AND GOR ARE ALL ANXIOUS TO BEGIN OPERATIONS; ALL SHARE A GROWING CONCERN THAT, WITH THE DAILY RETURN OF REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 KIGALI 01377 01 OF 03 300631Z
PERSONS TO THE FERTILE NORTHERN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE LAND MINES WERE LAID, THE NUMBER OF MINE RELATED ACCIDENTS WILL INCREASE.

UN DEMINING PROGRAM COULD BENEFIT FROM U.S. EXPERTISE

3. AS DESCRIBED IN REF B, BOTH GOR AND RPF (RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT) FORCES LAID OVER 50,000 LAND MINES IN THE NORTH DURING THE CIVIL WAR FROM 1990-1993. THE UN ASSISTANCE MISSION IN RWANDA (UNAMIR), CURRENTLY OPERATING IN COUNTRY, HAS AS PART OF ITS MANDATE TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RWANDAN LAND MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM. THE ENGINEERING GROUP WITHIN THE UN MISSION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPILING DATA ON LOCATIONS AND TYPES OF MINES, PROCUREMENT AND TESTING OF DEMINING EQUIPMENT, TRAINING OF GOR AND RPF FORCES IN THE USE OF THE EQUIPMENT, AND SUPERVISION OF MINE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS.

4. DURING AN UNAMIR BRIEFING FOR DASD IRVIN, UNAMIR'S PLANS SECTION REPORTED THAT IT COULD BENEFIT FROM U.S. ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTING ITS DEMINING PLAN. BASED ON THE MINE MAPS AND INFORMATION PROVIDED BY BOTH SIDES,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

U.S. MANUFACTURED MINES WERE LAID IN RWANDA. JOINT STAFF'S J-5, ACCOMPANYING MS. IRVIN, ADVISED THAT INFORMATION ON DEFUSING THESE MINES WAS CLASSIFIED AND COULD NOT BE RELEASED TO THE UN FORCES. INSTEAD, A U.S. MINE ASSESSMENT TEAM COULD PROVIDE THE TRAINING FOR DESTROYING (RATHER THAN DEFUSING) THESE MINES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 KIGALI 01377 01 OF 03 300631Z
RWANDANS REQUEST DEMINING ASSISTANCE

5. IN MEETINGS WITH THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE - AUGUSTIN BIZIMANA, THE ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF - MGEN NSABIMANA AND THE RPF FORCE COMMANDER - MGEN KAGAME, DASD IRVIN COMMUNICATED ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF PROPOSAL (REF A) FOR U.S. DEMINING ASSISTANCE. THE DEFENSE MINISTER TOLD DASD IRVIN THAT U.S. ASSISTANCE IN MINE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS WOULD BE VALUED BY BOTH SIDES. PRESIDENT

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KIGALI 01377 02 OF 03 300633Z
ACTION PM-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AF-01	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	DTC-01	RPE-01	PMB-00	/058W			

-----35E9A9 300633Z /38

R 300623Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6082
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
SECDEF WASHDC
JOINTSTAFF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//J4-SA/J4-SAA//
DIA WASHDC//CH-4//
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 KIGALI 01377

DEPT FOR PM/ISP, AF/RA, AF/C, AND IO/PHO

DOD FOR OSD/HRA

YAOUNDE FOR DAO

E.O. 12356:N/A

TAGS: MASS, MARR, PINS, PINR, PGOV, RW
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KIGALI 01377 02 OF 03 300633Z
SUBJECT: RWANDAN REQUEST FOR DEMINING ASSISTANCE

HABYARIMANA CONFIRMED RWANDAN KEEN INTEREST IN U.S.
HELP DURING HIS MEETING WITH MS. IRVIN. BOTH THE
MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND MGEN NSABIMANA SAID THAT THEY
HAD OFFICERS READY TO BE TRAINED TO BEGIN MINE
CLEARANCE OPERATIONS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.
LIKEWISE MGEN KAGAME SAID HIS MEN WERE READY TO BEGIN
THE DIFFICULT TASK AS SOON AS A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT
WAS IN PLACE. UNFORTUNATELY, BOTH ARMY COMMANDERS
LAMENTED, NO OPERATIONS COULD BEGIN UNTIL THE
POLITICAL IMPASSE WAS BROKEN AND A TRANSITION
GOVERNMENT IN PLACE.

MINE PROBLEM MANAGEABLE ACCORDING TO UN PLANNERS

6. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE WAS UNDER THE FALSE
IMPRESSION THAT MINE CLEARANCE WOULD ONLY TAKE 2-3
MONTHS WHEREAS THE UN FORCES PREDICT THAT OPERATIONS
WILL TAKE ALMOST TWO YEARS TO BE COMPLETED. DESPITE
THE MISUNDERSTANDING ON TIMING, ALL PARTIES ARE
CONFIDENT THAT MINE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS WILL BE
SUCCESSFUL. AS THE UN'S CHIEF PLANS OFFICER COMMENTED,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE MINES WERE DISPERSED
LIKE MOZAMBIQUE OR CAMBODIA, RWANDA'S MINE PROBLEMS
ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE NORTHERN SECTIONS OF THE
COUNTRY MAKING DEMINING A MORE MANAGEABLE PROGRAM. THE
PLANS OFFICER TOLD DASD IRVIN THAT UNAMIR CURRENTLY
HAS MINE MAPS SPECIFYING THE LOCATIONS OF A MAJORITY
OF THE MINES, WHILE THE REST - LAID DURING BATTLE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 KIGALI 01377 02 OF 03 300633Z
CONDITIONS WITH NO MAPS - CAN BE LOCALIZED TO SPECIFIC
AREAS WHERE FIGHTING TOOK PLACE.

RWANDA READY TO SIGN THE PROTOCOL BANNING USE OF MINES

7. TO MINIMIZE ANY FUTURE LAND MINE PROBLEMS, THE
MINISTER OF DEFENSE TOLD DASD IRVIN THAT RWANDA WAS
READY TO SIGN THE PROTOCOL BANNING THE USE OF MINES
UNDER THE TREATY ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. THE MINISTER
SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN PERSONALLY TOUCHED BY THE
TRAGEDY LAND MINES WRECK ON PEOPLES' LIVES. HE SAID
SOME OF HIS FRIENDS LIVING IN THE WAR ZONE HAD LOST
LIMBS DUE TO MINE ACCIDENTS. THE MINISTER ESTIMATED
THAT RWANDA CURRENTLY HAS APPROXIMATELY 10 MINE
RELATED ACCIDENTS A MONTH. ICRC ESTIMATES ARE SLIGHTLY
LOWER WITH 40 INCIDENTS OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS.

DASD IRVIN VISITS WAR WOUNDED AT MILITARY HOSPITAL

8. AT THE MINISTER'S INVITATION, DASD IRVIN ALSO
VISITED THE WAR WOUNDED AT THE KANOMBE MILITARY
HOSPITAL. MOST OF THE SOLDIERS WHO HAD LOST LIMBS HAD
NOT BEEN FITTED WITH PROSTHETIC DEVICES YET. ACCORDING
TO HOSPITAL OFFICIALS, ONCE FITTED, THE SOLDIERS WOULD
BE SENT TO A SEPARATE FACILITY FOR THERAPY AND
TRAINING. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TOLD DASD IRVIN DURING
HER VISIT TO MULINDI OF A SIMILAR PROGRAM FOR ITS WAR
WOUNDED IN WHICH SOLDIERS WHO HAD LOST LIMBS WERE
GIVEN VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN CARPENTRY, ELECTRONICS,
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 KIGALI 01377 02 OF 03 300633Z

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

MECHANICS, HANDICRAFTS, TYPING OR COMPUTER SCIENCE.

8. WHILE ON THE VISIT TO KANOMBE HOSPITAL, DASD IRVIN ALSO VISITED THE PEDIATRIC CLINIC, FUNDED UNDER THE U.S. CIVIC ACTION PROGRAM. THE CLINIC WAS FULLY OPERATIONAL WITH DOCTORS ATTENDING TO MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN. ONE WING OF THE CLINIC WAS BEING USED TO HOUSE WAR-WOUNDED AWAITING PROSTHETIC DEVICES.

9. ACTION REQUEST: A U.S. MINE ASSESSMENT TEAM COULD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KIGALI 01377 03 OF 03 300633Z
ACTION PM-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AF-01	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	DTC-01	RPE-01	PMB-00	/058W			

-----35E9B9 300633Z /38

R 300623Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6083
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
SECDEF WASHDC
JOINTSTAFF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//J4-SA/J4-SAA//
DIA WASHDC//CH-4//
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 KIGALI 01377

DEPT FOR PM/ISP, AF/RA, AF/C, AND IO/PHO

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

DOD FOR OSD/HRA

YAOUNDE FOR DAO

E.O. 12356:N/A

TAGS: MASS, MARR, PINS, PINR, PGOV, RW
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KIGALI 01377 03 OF 03 300633Z
SUBJECT: RWANDAN REQUEST FOR DEMINING ASSISTANCE

PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL EXPERTISE TO UNAMIR'S DEMINING PROGRAM, CURRENTLY BEING DEVELOPED BY THE POLISH AND BELGIAN PLANNING SECTION. THE BANGLADESHI ENGINEERING COMPANY, WHO WILL IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM, HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT TRAINING IN MINE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS AND COULD ALSO BENEFIT FROM U.S. INSTRUCTION. THE EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT A MINE ASSESSMENT TEAM VISIT RWANDA IN EARLY MAY TO BEGIN ITS SURVEY. POC FOR COORDINATION OF THE PROPOSED VISIT WILL BE ECONOFF LAURA LANE, TEL (250) 75602, FAX (250) 72128. RAWSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED